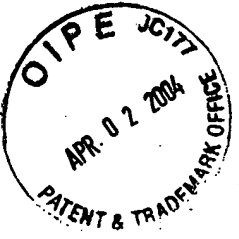


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Helmut SCHWARZ

Group Art Unit: 3679

Appln. No. : 10/718,593

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : November 24, 2003

For : DETACHABLE CONNECTION ARRANGEMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 23313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during examination of the instant application.

Applicant submits herewith a copy (in German) of a European Search Report conducted in European Application No. EP 03 02 6089, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited the following documents:

(1) EP 0 352 542. This document is cited as a "Y,D" category document (i.e., a document of special significance in connection with another publication of the same category and a document discussed in the European application). Col. 5, line 23 to

col. 9, line 51 and figures 1-4 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-6, 9 and 10 of the European Application. This document is cited as an "A" category document (i.e., technical background). Col. 5, line 23 to col. 9, line 51 and figures 1-4 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 7 and 8 of the European Application;

(2) US 5,876,023. This document is cited as a "Y" category document. Col. 2, line 19 to col. 3, line 59 and figures 1-4 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-6, 9 and 10 of the European Application;

(3) US 6,409,446. This document is cited as a "Y" category document. The abstract and figure 3 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1 and 9 of the European Application;

(4) US 4,974,888 is listed in the annex as being a family member document of EP 0 352 542; and

(5) US 5,876,024 is listed in the annex as being a family member document of US 5,876,023.

A copy of the above-noted European Search Report is being provided. However, a copy of document (1) is not being provided because this document was submitted to the Examiner in the February 24, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement. Additionally, copies of the above-listed documents (2) - (5) are not enclosed herein since these documents are US patents, and because the instant

P24519.A03

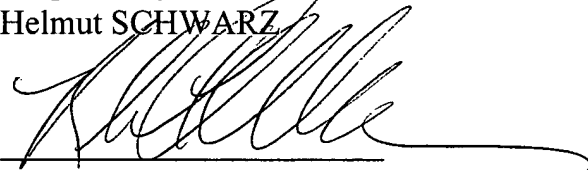
application was filed after June 30, 2003. Applicant notes that Rule 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) has been waived by the USPTO for US patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003. Moreover, a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing documents (1) - (5) is being provided. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form with the first official communication.

Applicant notes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a US application and/or before receipt of an Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1) and (3).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Helmut SCHWARZ

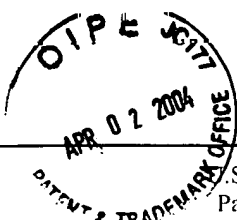


Neil F. Greenblum

Reg. No. 28,394

Handwritten: #35,043

April 2, 2004
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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P24519Serial No.
10/718,593

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Helmut SCHWARZFiling Date
November 24, 2003Group
3679**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5 8 7 6 0 2 3	03/02/99	HAIN et al			
	6 4 0 9 4 4 6	06/25/02	SCHWARZ			
	4 9 7 4 8 8 8	12/04/90	CHILDERS			
	5 8 7 6 0 2 4	03/02/99	HAIN			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
0 3 5 2 5 4 2	01/31/90				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.